

SECRET

MAY 29 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, ISA

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, COMPTROLLER

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, MANPOWER

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, INSTALLATIONS AND LOGISTICS

SUBJECT: Temporary Reinforcement as a Berlin Deterrent (S)

It may soon become desirable to show more clearly to the USSR, without fanfare, the U.S. determination and ability to apply military power in the Berlin situation. I consider that temporary reinforcement of U.S. forces in Europe and some expansion of U.S. capability to reinforce further are among the most meaningful acts toward this purpose. The primary objective of such actions would be to deter the USSR from initiating a Berlin crisis.

It is requested that the JCS, in coordination with other addressees, study and provide me by 6 June their views and recommendations regarding the capability for, approximate costs of, and main implications of:

a. An air mobility exercise of about two battle groups to Germany in June, and return within 2-3 weeks, on the order of Long Thrust.

b. Movement (air, sea, or both) of one STRAD division to Germany or Italy in July for a one- or two-month period.

c. Calling one reserve component division to active service in July for a 30- or 60-day period.

d. Other similar scale activity of ground, naval, and air units which you consider would contribute significantly to the above objective at this stage.

For the purpose of this study, the Assistant Secretaries of Defense, International Security Affairs, Comptroller, Manpower and Installations and Logistics are requested to provide all necessary guidance, assistance and support in their respective areas to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. For planning purposes, it should be assumed that these operations would be funded above present budgetary levels.

It is emphasized that this study is for planning purposes only and should not prompt any preparatory activity. Implementation would be a matter for decision at the highest level.

Signature Authenticated By:

Signed

ROSSELL L. GILPATRIC

Deputy Secretary of Defense

cc: Mr. Gilpatric
C-73691

Ferry A. Long

CWO-2 USA

Prepared by: LtCol Armstrong, DIST: Orig & 3 cys JCS

EurReg/ISA/26 May 61, X-54812, 1 each to other

Rm 3D256/dr

SECRET

OSD, R&C File, R&C Reading, Comeback, Stayback

cc: Secretary of the Army

C-73714-Secretary of the Navy

C-73715-Secretary of the Air Force

SecDef Cont. No.